

for group
members

Open Enrollment Alert

September
2002

This serves as an official notice of changes to your Basic Health coverage, and is an addendum to your *Member Handbook*.

If you belong to Basic Health, as a member of an employer group or one of the following financial sponsor organizations, this *Open Enrollment Alert* affects you:

- El Centro de la Raza
- Franciscan Health System
- Housing Hope
- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Leah Layne Foundation
- Lummi Indian Business Council
- Mt. Adams Health Foundation
- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
- St. John Peace Health
- Quinault Indian Nation
- University of Washington Physicians

Open enrollment is just around the corner

Watch the mail for your official Basic Health open enrollment information, which should arrive around October 14. Open enrollment runs from October 14 through November 15, and is your chance to change your family's health plan or add family members to your account. During that time, our benefits specialists will be available to help you Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., at 1-800-660-9840.

Be sure to review the open enrollment information. It will show the health plan(s) available to you, and the 2003 premium(s). Your open enrollment materials will also explain which plan you will be enrolled in if you don't make a change. **Changes will take effect January 1, 2003.**

Make your changes online

Do you like to do your business online? Visit our Web site at www.basichealth.hca.wa.gov. You can find general information about Basic Health there. During open enrollment, you can also make your health plan change or selection online. Be sure to try it!

You have choices

Most Basic Health members have a choice of health plans available to them. In some counties, however, there is only one health plan available. Even in those areas, there are still choices you can make:

- Are you happy with your doctor? Now may be a good time to evaluate your relationship with your primary care provider(s). Does (s)he listen to you and explain things in a way you can understand? Is the office staff polite and helpful? You may want to talk to friends about their providers, or visit our Web site at www.basichealth.hca.wa.gov and click on the Provider Directory to see which providers are available through your health plan in your area.
- Do you want to add family members to your account? You can! Your open enrollment materials will explain.

2003 Basic Health changes

Premium changes

Because of 2003 contract changes, your group may see a change in monthly premium, shown on the billing statement to be received in November, that is due December 5, 2002.

The monthly premium is based on your family's size, ages of enrolled family members, income, and health plan. The following changes may also affect your monthly premium.

- Adding (including birth or adoption of a child) or removing family members, which may change your monthly premium, even if you're not adding them for coverage; or
- Reporting a change in income; or
- Having a family member lose eligibility for the Maternity Benefits Program or Basic Health *Plus*.

Benefit change

Beginning January 1, 2003, coverage of durable medical equipment is excluded, except when a member is hospitalized.



Basic Health™

To obtain this document in another format, call our Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator at 360-923-2805. TTY users (deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired), call 360-923-2701 or toll-free 1-888-923-5622.

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